Annus Mirabilis.

Annus Mirabilis.

Annus Mirabilis:

OR,

The Wonderful Effects of the approaching Conjunction of the Planets *Jupiter*, *Mars*, and *Saturn*.

By ABRAHAM GUNTER, *Philomath.*
A Well-Wisher to the Mathematicks.

In nova fert animus mutatas dicere formas
Corpora - - - - -

I Suppose every Body is sufficiently appriz'd of, and duly prepar'd for the famous Conjunction to be celebrated the 29th of this Instant *December*, foretold by all the Sages of Antiquity, under the Name of the *Annus Mirabilis*, or the *Metamorphostical* Conjunction; a Word which denotes the mutual Transformation of Sexes, the Effect of that Configuration of the Celestial Bodies; the human Males being to be turned into Females, and the human Females into Males. As to Brutes, Antiquity is divided; nor will I interpose amongst those eminent Personages, or anticipate what the Event of a few Days will determine.

The *Egyptians* have represented this great Transformation by several very significant Hieroglyphicks, particularly one very remarkable. There are carv'd upon an Obelisk, a *Barber* and a *Midwife*; the Barber delivers his Razor to the Midwife, and she her Swadling Cloaths to the Barber.

Accordingly *Thales Milesius* (who, like the rest of his Countrymen, borrow'd his Learning from the *Ægyptians*) after having computed the Time of this famous Conjunction, *Then*, says he, *shall Men and Women mutually exchange the Pangs of Shaving and Childbearing.*

Annexi-

Anaximander modeſtly deſcribes this Metamorphoſis in Mathematical Terms: *Then*, ſays he, *ſhall the negative Quantity of the Women be turn'd into poſitive, their* —— *into* +; (i. e.) their *leſs* into *more*.

Plato not only ſpeaks of this great Change, but deſcribes all the Preparations towards it. "Long before the bodily Transformation "(ſays he) Nature ſhall begin the moſt difficult Part of her Work, "by changing the Ideas and Inclinations of the two Sexes; Men "ſhall turn effeminate, and Women manly; Wives ſhall domineer, "and Husbands obey; Ladies ſhall ride a Horſeback, dreſs'd like "Cavaliers; Princes and Nobles appear in Night-trails and Petticoats; "Men ſhall ſqueak upon Theatres with Female Voices, and Wo-"men corrupt Virgins; Men ſhall knot and cut Paper; and even "the *Northern* People, ἀρσένα κινεῖν αἰνεῖν: A Phraſe (which "for Modeſty's Sake I forbear to tranſlate) which denotes a Vice too "frequent amongſt us". So far *Plato*.

Nor was our own *Merlin* ignorant of this Transformation; witneſs that myſterious Stanza of his, the Meaning of which is now plain.

Then a Miniſtry full wiſe,
When they have ſpoil'd the Plotter's Guize,
Shall hang a Man right quickely,
Before he can plead his Bell——y.

That the Miniſtry foreſaw this great Change, is plain from the *Callico-Act*; whereby it is now become the Occupation of the Women all over *England*, to convert their uſeleſs Female Habits into Beds, Window-Curtains, Chairs, and Joint-ſtools; undreſſing themſelves (as it were) before their Transformation.

The Philoſophy of this Transformation will not ſeem ſurprizing to People, who ſearch into the *Bottom* of Things. Madam *Bourignon*, a devout *French* Lady, has ſhewn us, how Man was at firſt created Male and Female in one Individual, having the Faculty of Propagation within himſelf: A Circumſtance neceſſary to the State of Innocence, wherein a Man's Happineſs was not to depend upon the Caprice of another. It was not till after he had made a *faux pas*, that he had his Female Mate, (firſt join'd to him as the *Bohemian* Girls were join'd, and then ſeparated.) Many ſuch Tranſformations of Individuals have been well atteſted; particularly one by *Montaigne*, and another by the late Biſhop of *Salisbury*. From all which it appears, that this Syſtem of Male and Female has already undergone, and may hereafter ſuffer ſeveral Alterations. Every Smatterer in Anatomy knows, that a Woman is but an introverted Man; a new Fuſion and *Flatus* will turn the hollow Bottom of a Bottle into a Convexity; but I forbear, (for the Sake of my Men Readers, who are in a few Days to be Virgins.)

In ſome Subjects, the ſmalleſt Alterations will do; ſome Men are ſufficiently ſpread about the Hips, and contriv'd with that Female Softneſs, that they want only the Negative Quantity to make them Buxom Wenches; and there are Women who are, as it were, already the *Ebauche* of a good ſturdy Man. If Nature cou'd be puzzl'd,

it

it will be how to beſtow the redundant Matter of the exuberant Bubbies that now appear about Town, or to roll out the ſhort dapper Fellows into well-ſiz'd Women.

Ariſtotle has with great Nicety determin'd the Caſe of Eunuchs and Hermophrodites. *The firſt*, ſays he, *will be transform'd into Barren Women*, (I ſuppoſe he means like a ſpay'd Hen.) *The ſecond will change their predominant Inclination*: I am glad of this Circumſtance of Eunuchs, becauſe the Opera will not be interrupted by their big Bellies.

This great Conjunction will begin to operate on *Saturday* the 29th Inſtant. Accordingly, about Eight at Night, as *Senzino* begins, *Si videte, Did you but ſee?* He ſhall be obſerv'd to make an unuſual Motion; upon which the Audience will be affected with a red Suffuſion over their Countenance: And becauſe a ſtrong Succuſſion of the Muſcles of the Belly is neceſſary towards performing this great Operation, both Sexes will be thrown into a profuſe involuntary Laughter; then (to uſe the modeſt Terms of *Anaximander*) ſhall negative Quantity be turn'd into poſitive, *&c.* Time never beheld, nor will it ever aſſemble ſuch a Number of untouch'd Virgins within thoſe Walls; but alas! ſuch will be the Impatience and Curioſity of People to act in their new Capacity, that many of them will go to Pot that very Night. To prevent the Diſorders that may happen upon this Occaſion, is the chief Deſign of this Paper.

Gentlemen have begun already to make uſe of this Conjunction to compaſs their filthy Purpoſes. They tell the Ladies forſooth, that it is only parting with a periſhable Commodity; hardly of ſo much Value as a Callico Under-petticoat, ſince, like its Miſtreſs, it will be uſeleſs in the Form it is now in. If the Ladies have no Regard to the Diſhonour and Immorality of the Action, I deſire they will conſider that Nature, who never deſtroys her own Productions, will exempt big-belly'd Women till the Time of their Lying in; ſo that not to be tranſform'd, will be the ſame as to be pregnant. If they don't think it worth while to defend a Fortreſs that is to be demoliſh'd in a few Days, let them reflect that it will be a melancholly thing Nine Months hence, to be brought to Bed of a Baſtard; a poſthumous Baſtard as it were, to which the *Quondam* Father can be no more than a dry Nurſe.

This wonderful Transformation is the Inſtrument of Nature, to balance Matters between the Sexes. Then ſhall the Cruelty of ſcornful Miſtreſſes be return'd, and they forc'd to ſue to their new form'd Lovers with yet ſtronger Deſires: Happy Lovers ſhall repay in kind the Favours they have receiv'd, and be as bleſs'd as their fellow Worms of the Earth, who (contemptible as they ſeem) are fram'd by Nature to enjoy both Pleaſures. The ſlighted Maid ſhall grow into an imperious Gallant, and reward her Undoer with a big Belly, and a Baſtard. The Coquette Wife ſhall turn the jealous Husband; and every Individual ſhall be able to decide the Queſtion ſo much diſputed, concerning the comparative Delights of the Sexes.

It is hardly poſſible to imagine the Revolutions that this wonderful Phænomenon will occaſion over the Face of the Earth. I long impatiently to ſee the Proceedings of the Parliament of *Paris*, as to the Title of

Suc-

Succeſſion to their Crown ; this being a Caſe not provided for by the *Salique* Law. There will be no preventing Diſorders amongſt Friars and Monks ; for certainly Vows of Chaſtity don't bind but under the Sex in which they were made. The ſame will hold good with Marriages, tho' I think it will be a Scandal amongſt Proteſtants for Husbands and Wives to part, ſince there remains ſtill a poſſibility to perform the *Debitum Conjugale* by the Husband being *femme Couverte*. I ſubmit it to the Judgment of the Gentlemen of the Long Robe, whether this Transformation does not diſcharge all Suits of Rapes ?

The Pope muſt undergo a new groping ; but the falſe Prophet *Mahomet* has contriv'd Matters well for his Succeſſors ; for as the Grand Signior has now a great many fine Women, he will then have as many fine young Gentlemen at his Devotion.

Theſe are ſurprizing Scenes, but I beg leave to affirm, that the ſolemn Operations of Nature are Subjects of Contemplation, but not of Ridicule ; therefore I make it my earneſt Requeſt to the merry Fellows, and giggling Girls about Town, that they would not put themſelves in a high Twitter, when they go to viſit a General Lying-in of his firſt Child ; his Officers ſerving as Midwives, Nurſes and Rockers, diſpenſing Caudle ; or if they behold the Reverend Prelates dreſſing the Heads and airing the Linnen at Court, I beg they will remember that theſe Offices muſt be fill'd with People of the greateſt Regularity, and beſt Characters. For the ſame Reaſon, I am ſorry that a certain Prelate, who notwithſtanding his Confinement, ſtill preſerves his healthy, chearful Countenance, cannot come in time to be a Nurſe at Court.

I likewiſe earneſtly intreat the Maids of Honour, (then Enſign and Captains of the Guards,) that at their firſt ſetting out, they have ſome Regard to their former Station ; and not run wild through all the infamous Houſes about Town. That the preſent Grooms of the Bed-Chamber (the Maids of Honour) would not eat Chalk and Lime in their Green-Sickneſs : And in general, that the Men would remember that they are then become *Retromingent*, and not by Inadvertency lift up againſt Walls and Poſts. Petticoats will not be burdenſome to the Clergy ; but Balls and Aſſemblies will be indecent for ſome Time.

As for you, Coquettes, Bawds, and Chambermaids, (the future Miniſters, Plenipotentiaries and Cabinet-Counſellors to the Princes of the Earth,) manage the great Intrigues that will be committed to your Charge, with your uſual Secrecy and Conduct ; and the Affairs of your Maſters will go better than ever.

O ye *Exchange* Women (our Right Worſhipful Repreſentatives that are to be) be not ſo griping in the Sale of your Ware as your Predeceſſors, but conſider that the Nation, like a ſpend-thrift Heir, has run out : Be likewiſe a little more continent in your Tongues than you are at preſent, elſe the Length of Debates will ſpoil your Dinners.

You Houſewively good Women, who now preſide over the Confectionary, (henceforth Commiſſioners of the *Treaſury*) be ſo good as to diſpenſe the Sugar-Plumbs of the Government with a more impartial and frugal Hand. Ye Prudes and cenſorious old Maids, (the Hopes of the *Bench*) exert but your uſual Talent of finding Faults, and the Laws will be ſtrictly executed ; only I would

not

not have you proceed upon ſuch ſlender Evidences as you have done hitherto. It is from you, eloquent Oyſter-Merchants of *Billingſgate*, (juſt ready to be call'd to the Bar, and quoif'd like your Siſter-Serjeants,) that we expect the ſhortening the Time, and leſſening the Expences of Law-Suits: For I think you are obſerv'd to bring your Debates to a ſhort Iſſue; and even Cuſtom will refrain you from taking the Oyſter, and leaving only the Shell to your Clients. O ye Prieſts, who now in a clandeſtine Way exerciſe your Office of coupling, when you continue your Practice in a lower Sphere, I queſtion not but you will be more ſucceſsful than you have been hitherto, in pleaſing both Parties. O ye Phyſicians, who in the Figure of old Women are to clean the Tripe in the Markets; ſcour it as effectually as you have done that of your Patients, and the Town will fare moſt deliciouſly on *Saturdays*.

I cannot but congratulate human Nature, upon this happy Tranſformation; the only Expedient left to reſtore the Liberties and Tranquility of Mankind; which is ſo evident, that it is almoſt an Affront to common Senſe to inſiſt upon the Proof it. If there can be any ſuch ſtupid Creature who doubts of it, I deſire he will make but the following obvious Reflection: There are in *Europe* alone, at preſent, about a Million of ſturdy Fellows, under the Denomination of ſtanding Forces, with Arms in their Hands: That thoſe are Maſters of the Lives, Liberties and Fortunes of all the reſt, I believe no body will deny. It is no leſs true in Fact, that Reams of Paper, and above a ſquare Mile of Skins of Vellum have been employ'd to no Purpoſe, to ſettle Peace amongſt thoſe Sons of Violence. Pray, who is he that will ſay unto them, *Go and diſband your ſelves?* But lo! by this Transformation it is done at once, and the *Halcyon* Days of publick Tranquillity return. For neither the military Temper nor Diſcipline can taint the ſoft Sex for a whole Age to come. *Bellaque matribus inviſa, Wars odious now to Mothers*, will not grow immediately palatable in their Paternal State.

Nor will the Influence of this Transformation be leſs in Family-Tranquillity than it is in National. Great Faults will be amended, and Frailties forgiven on both Sides. A Wife who has been diſturb'd with late Hours, and choak'd with the Hautgoût of a Sot, will remember her Sufferings, and avoid the Temptation; and will, for the ſame Reaſon, indulge her Mate in his female Capacity in ſome Paſſions, which ſhe is ſenſible from Experience are natural to the Sex. Such as Vanity of fine Cloaths, being admir'd, *&c.* And how tenderly muſt ſhe uſe her Mate under the breeding Qualms and Labour-Pains, which ſhe felt her ſelf? In ſhort, all unreaſonable Demands upon Husbands muſt ceaſe, becauſe they are already ſatisfy'd from natural Experience that they are impoſſible. That the Ladies may govern the Affairs of the World, and the Gentlemen thoſe of their Houſhold, better than either of them have hither done, is the hearty Deſire of,

Their Moſt Sincere
Well-Wiſher,

ABRAHAM GUNTER.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

PLanetary Powders, as neceſſary for the new Births of Sexes, as Sperma Ceti *for Pu[illegible]erous Women: Prepar'd and Sold by* John Moore, *Apothecary at the Peſtle and Mortar in* Abchurch-Lane.

All Male and Female Implements exchang'd at reaſonable Rates; at Mr. Dards *Toy-Shop againſt St.* Dunſtan's *Church.*

All Sorts of Manly Exerciſe; Riding, Vaulting, &c. taught to the Ladies, at a Guinea a Leſſon; at Mrs. L—ge's *in* Red-Lion-Street.

And whereas ſuch unexpected and amazing Mutations may come to paſs: As for Example; A Quaker Girl transform'd to a Reverend Tub-preacher, and that under ſuch ſudden Alterations, Perſons may find Difficulties in ſubmitting to new Amours: Be it known to all, that at the Sign of the *Geneva Bible* in *Paul's* Church-Yard, there are to be Sold at moderate Rates, *Conſciences that will comply to any Religion or Government.*

FINIS.

LONDON:

Printed for J. ROBERTS, near the *Oxford-Arms* in *Warwick-Lane.* MDCCXXII.

(Price Three Pence.)